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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2020, at 9 a.m.

Senate

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we need You more than human help. Restore us to Your favor, surrounding us with the shield of Your mercy. We have been shaken by forces that have come against us and look to You, our redeemer and friend. Lord, we are grateful that, though wrong seems strong, You continue to rule.

Fill our lawmakers with reverence and trust in Your prevailing providence. May that reverential awe keep them on the path of courage, integrity, and wisdom. Lord, remind them that You have invited them to seek and discover Your might. You declare in Psalm 50:15: "Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you."

We praise Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IOWA'S PRIMARY ELECTION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, the House of Representatives has passed a bill that is kind of like a one-size-fits-all for elections, meaning that everything ought to be run out of Washington, DC, which is contrary to what we have done in this country for 240 years, wherein we have had 50 States running the elections. I want to refer to what happens in the State of Iowa.

Last week, Iowans voted in record numbers in our June primary. In most elections, about 40 percent of Iowans choose to vote by absentee ballot. This year, in our primary and, understandably, because of the pandemic, the vast majority cast its votes by absentee ballot—a State decision, a personal decision, not something dictated by Washington.

As I have already referred to, there are those here in Washington, DC—in Congress and maybe outside of Congress—who say that, unless the Federal Government mandates that States adopt a whole new, centralized, non-optional vote-by-mail system before November, Americans will not be able to vote from home.

Iowa's successful primary election shows that the absentee ballot system that is already in place in our State—and in most States—that is run by our county auditors is up to the task. We have proven that. Every Iowan who wants to vote absentee in November

can do so, and those who want to vote in person can also do so safely.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT AND HEROES ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, as protests over the death of George Floyd continue, House and Senate Democrats came together yesterday to unveil sweeping reforms to our Nation's police departments.

The Justice in Policing Act was not only a response to the recent protests but a reflection of years of failed efforts to root out injustice and racial bias in our law enforcement. The bill would ban the use of choke holds and other tactics that have left Black Americans dead. It would limit the transfer of military weaponry and equipment to police departments. It would change the legal standard to make it easier to hold police accountable for misconduct when they use

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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